

ER-7-2651 a

STAT

The Honorable Samuel N. Friedel
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Friedel:

Thank you for your letter of July 26 regarding the possible location of the new Central Intelligence Agency headquarters installation in Maryland.

During the past few months we have considered over 30 sites for the possible location of our new building. Several of these sites were in the State of Maryland. Members of the Maryland Congressional delegation and individual citizens of your State have written us about possible sites in the area, and these were given consideration in the course of our studies.

We have consulted with the planning officials of the Maryland counties adjacent to the District, and with the Maryland representative of the Regional Planning Council and the Maryland Park and Planning Commission. Members of my staff have also talked with Senator Butler, Senator Beall and Representative Lankford.

When we had finally narrowed down our search to a few sites which might meet our criteria the list contained two in Maryland -- one at Suitland and the other a tract near the Naval Hospital at Bethesda. However, after we had weighed all of the factors as to time and distance from those agencies with which we are in constant contact, and traffic conditions during the rush hour, we came to the conclusion that the two best sites for our purposes were a tract of Government-owned land at Langley, Virginia and a tract in the Alexandria area. We have expressed a preference for the Langley site.

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I wish to assure you and the members of your delegation that several sites in Maryland were given the most serious consideration before arriving at the conclusions noted above. However, if the members of the Maryland delegation in Congress would like to meet with me before we reach a final decision, I would be glad, of course, to meet with them at their convenience.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

WHD

OGC:WLP/blc (3 Aug. 55)

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Orig. & 1 - Add

2 - Signer /

2 - Legislative Counsel

1 - DD/S

1 - Dir. of Logistics w/basic

CONCUR:

Deputy Director/Support